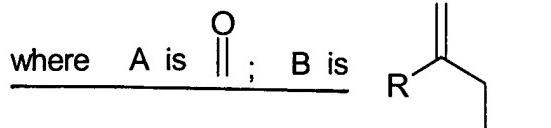
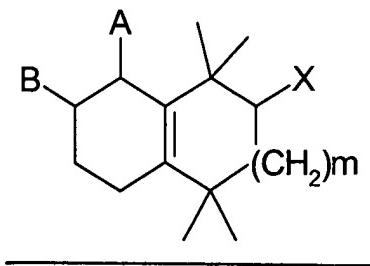


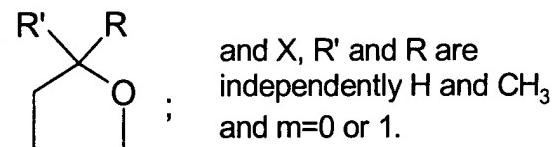
IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (currently amended): A fragrance formulation comprising from about 0.005 to about 70 weight percent of the compound ~~of claim 1~~



or A and B together form the ring structure



Claim 15 (previously presented): The fragrance formulation of claim 14 wherein the compound is incorporated at a level of from about 0.1 to about 50 weight percent.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method for the preparation of 4,10,10,11,12,12-hexamethyl-3-oxatricyclo[7.3.0.0<2,6>]dodecane comprising

1. providing:

- a. 7,7,8,9,9-pentamethyl-3-prop-2-enylbicyclo[4.3.0]nonan-2-ol;
- b. toluene
- c. methanesulfonic acid,

2. mixing a, b and c to form a mixture and

3. heating said mixture

to form 4,10,10,11,12,12-hexamethyl-3-oxatricyclo[7.3.0.0<2,6>]dodecane.

~~the heating of 7,7,8,9,9-pentamethyl-3-prop-2-enylbicyclo[4.3.0]nonan-2-ol, toluene and methanesulfonic acid.~~

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method of claim 16 wherein the heating is conducted at a temperature of from about 80 to about 90 °C.